

[6 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

R.B.I. Directive to Nationalised Banks for Credit to SEZs

1501. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have taken any steps in preventing the realtors entering as SEZs promoters, and to save the agricultural lands;
- (b) if so, what are the guidelines and the economic concessions; and
- (c) whether it is also a fact that RBI has directed the nationalized banks to offer credit to SEZs on the same terms and conditions, as offered to real estate developers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Central Government has notified a list of operations which alone can be undertaken by the developers in the Special Economic Zones (SEZs) with the approval of the Board of Approvals. Such authorized operations alone would qualify for tax and duty concessions. Further the States have been advised that while acquiring land for SEZs, if perchance, double crop land is to be acquired for meeting the minimum land and contiguity criteria, specially in case of Multi product SEZs, it must be ensured that such land does not exceed 10% of the total area proposed for the SEZ.

(c) Reserve Bank of India vide its circular no. RBI/2006-07/131 DBOD.B.P.B.C. 30/21.01.002/ 2006-2007 dated September 20, 2006 has issued guidelines in this regard.

Amount spent by I.T.P.O. on trade fair

†1502. SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the total amount spent on maintenance etc. on every trade fair by the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation in Delhi, till date;
- (b) the details of income earned by the Indian Trade Promotion Organisation from every trade fair;

^tOriginal notice of the question was received in Hindi.